Malpractices in Railway reservations

234. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(b) the number of cases of malpractices in Railway reservations detected during 1989 and up to the 15th November, 1990, indicating the figures separately in the country;

(c) the numbtr cf railway employees found guilty and punished for such malpractices during this period; and

(c) whether Government propose to examine the rules for plugging the loopholes in reservations as well as for the refund cf fares for unused reserved railway tickets to eliminate delay in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) 817 during 1989 and 702 upto 15th November, 1990 in respect of only reservation malpractices as detected by Vigilance Organisation.

(b) The number of railway employees found guilty and punishments initiated by the Vigilance Organisation stood at 853 during 1989 and 926 upto 15th November, 1990. The disciplinary cases include some of those against whom actions were initiated in earlier periods also.

(c) In the Railways Act, 1989 effective from 1-7-90, the penalty for transfer of ticket has been enhanced to imprisonment upto 3 months and/ or fine upto Rs. 500/. For unauthor-isedly carrying on business of pro-curing and supplying of railway tickets, penalty of imprisonment upto 3 years and/or fine upto Rs. 10,000/- has been provided. These provisions would (be deterrent to unauthorised sale, purchase or transfer of reserved tickets.

The rules for cancellation of tickets and refund of fares have been revised with effect from **1.9.1990.**

Drinking water problem in Rajasthan

235. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE j be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to continued drought for the past five years the drinking wa ter supply situation in Rajasthan has worsened and underground water table receding at a fast rate;

(b) whether any central Study Team has undertaken any survey to assess the drinking water shortage in various districts of Rajasthan; and

(c) whether the State Government has sought any Central help for the proposed lift scheme from Indira Gandhi Canal for Jodhpur city and Bilaspur Dam Project if so, the am ount sanctioned so far and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH): (a) There is a declining trend in groundwtaer levels in some areas of Rajasthan due to continuous deficit rainfall and excessive groundwater withdrawals for various uses.

(b) A team of officers of the Cen tral Government had visited the State to assess the situation of drinking water supply in seriously affected districts.

(c) The expenditure on the lift scheme from Indira Gandhi Canal for Jodhpur city is met out of State Sec tor plan resources for urban areas, Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) for rural areas, LIC loan assistance and assistance from the defence autho rities for defence establishment. The expenditure on Bilaspur Dam pro ject is met out of the State Govern ment's plan resources. No specific proposal for Central help has been received from the State Government for these projects in 1990-91 in the Ministry of Urban Development and Department of Rural Development.

Allotment of flats to 1985 registrants

236. SHRI SYED SEBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during November, 1990, Slum Wing of DDA has invited applications from regis tered persons of 1985 scheme for allotment of flats on cash-down basis constructed in Inderlok Area;

(a) if so, the details of the total number of applications received;

(b) the cost of these flats floor-wise fixed;

(b) whether any date for holding the draw has since been decided for allotment of these flats;

(c) if so, the details thereof along-with the name of the members of jury choosen for presence during such draw and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) what formalities the successful allottees would have to complete to take the possession of these flats?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(d) 1537.

(b) The cost of 960 flats constructed in Inderlok area in 1975-76 is Rs. 47,600/- per flat and o 128 flats constructed in 1982-83 i_s Rs. 61,400/-per flat.

(d) and (e) Since the applications were invited only in November, 1990 and these have yet to be scrutinised the question of fixing date for draw of lots and choosing members of the jury does not arise now.

(f) The formalities by the successful allottees comprise payment of premium and submission of relevant documents on receipt of demand letters by them.

Display of stock position by Fair Price Shops owners

237. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(c) whether Fair Price Shops in Delhi & other parts of the country are supposed to display the stock position of food items available with their shops;

(d) whether these Fair Price Shops are also supposed to display the rates of each item being sold through them;

(a) whether these Fair Price Shops are also supposed to display the timings of their shops;

(b) whether it is a fact that none of these things are seen at Fair Price Shops in Delhi and other parts of the country; and

(c) if so, the details of action Gov-ernment proposes to take in the matter against Fair Price Shops owners for not ensuring the implementation of existing instructions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Surprise inspections are conducted from time to time by State Governments/U. T. Administrations authorities. Action is taken against defaulters.

Implementing of pay scales of Rs. 1640-2900

238. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

j (a) whether the new pay scales of Rs. 1640-2900 recommended by the Fourth Pay Commission for Assistants and Steno Grade 'C has since